

CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS

Connecticut Siting Council

APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS

TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

BLOOMFIELD BLUE HILLS FACILITY

DOCKET NO. _____

APRIL 25, 2007



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	i
SITE LOCATION MAP	ii
AERIAL PHOTO	iii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
A. Authority and Purpose	1
B. The Applicant	4
C. Application Fee.....	4
II. SERVICE AND NOTICE REQUIRED BY C.G.S. SECTION 16-50/(b).....	5
III. REQUIRED INFORMATION: PROPOSED WIRELESS FACILITY	5
A. General Information.....	5
B. Public Need and System Design	7
1. Public Need	7
2. System Design and Equipment	7
a. System Design	7
b. Cellular System Equipment.....	8
3. Technological Alternatives	9
C. Site Selection and Tower Sharing	10
1. Cell Site Selection	10
2. Tower Sharing	11
D. Cell Site Information	11
1. Site Facilities	11
2. Overall Costs and Benefits.....	12
3. Environmental Compatibility	12
a. Primary Facility Impact is Visual.....	13
b. Solicitation of Agency Comments	14
c. Non-Ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation	14
d. Other Environmental Issues	15
4. Consistency with Local Land Use Controls	16
a. Planned and Existing Land Uses	16
c. Zoning Regulations.....	17
d. Inland Wetland and Water Course Regulations.....	17
5. Local Input.....	18

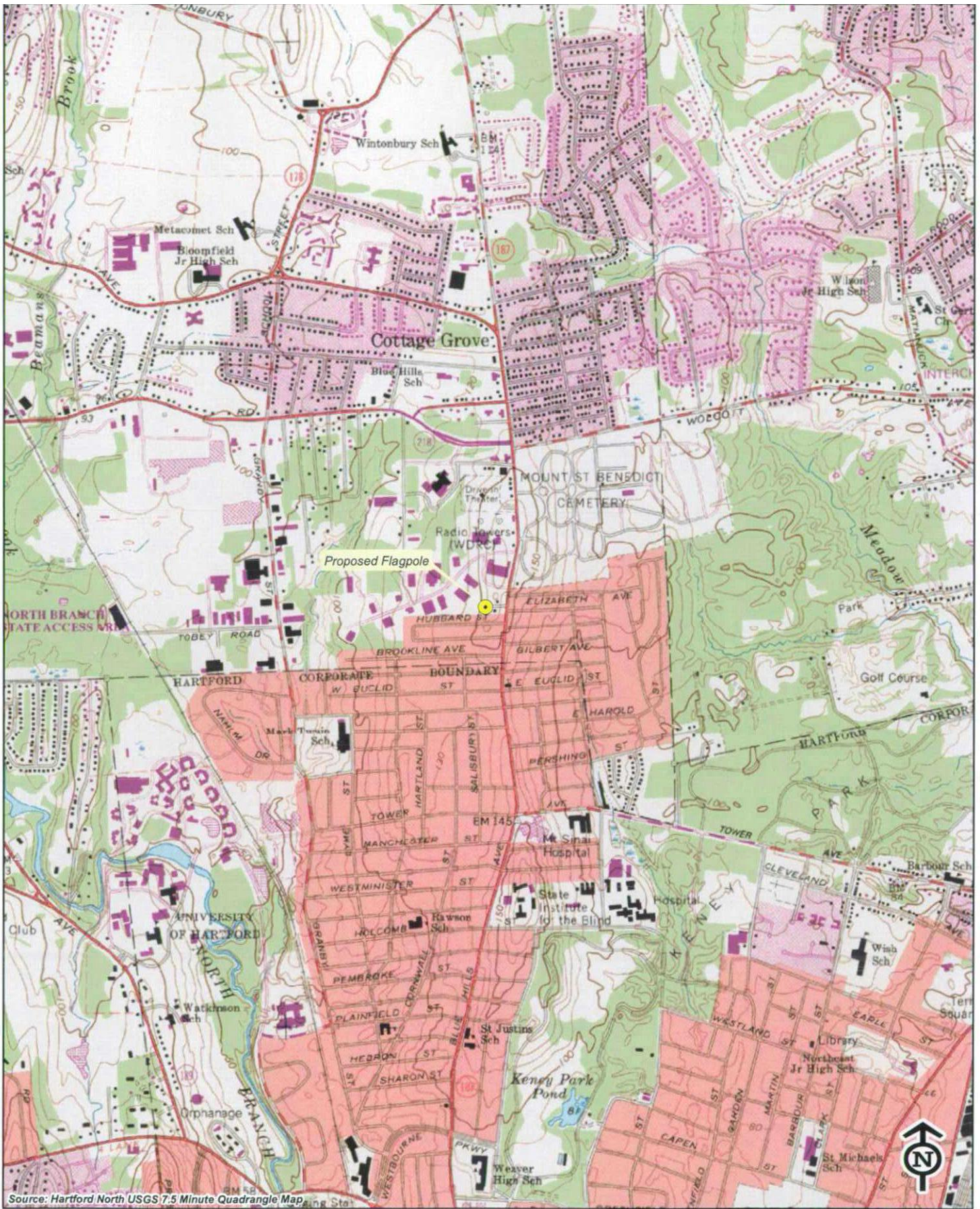
6.	Consultations With State and Federal Officials	18
a.	Federal Communications Commission	19
b.	Federal Aviation Administration.....	19
d.	Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.....	19
e.	Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer	20
E.	Estimated Cost and Schedule	20
1.	Overall Estimated Costs.....	20
2.	Overall Scheduling.....	20
IV.	CONCLUSION.....	21

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

1. Bloomfield Blue Hills – Factual Summary and Project Plans
2. Certificate of Service of Application on Government Officials and List of Officials Served
3. Legal Notice in the *Hartford Courant*
4. Notice to Landowners; List of Abutting Landowners; Certificate of Service
5. Federal Communications Commission Authorization
6. Coverage Maps – Location of Surrounding Cell Sites
7. Antenna and Equipment Specifications
8. Site Search Summary
9. Visual Impact Evaluation Report
10. State and Federal Agency Review Letters
11. Wetland Delineation Report
12. Federal Airways & Airspace Summary Report
13. Connecticut Siting Council Application Guide
14. Site Lease

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”) proposes to construct a telecommunications tower and related facility on an 8.8 acre property located at 811 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield, Connecticut (the “Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility”). The proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would provide for much needed coverage and capacity relief in the southeasterly portion of the Town of Bloomfield and northeasterly portion of the City of Hartford. At the site, Cellco would construct a 110-foot telecommunications tower disguised as a flagpole. Cellco will install a total of six (6) internally-mounted panel-type antennas, three (3) PCS antennas at the 105-foot level and three (3) cellular antennas at the 95-foot level on the tower. Cellco’s equipment would be located in a 12’ x 30’ shelter installed near the base of the tower. The tower and equipment shelter would be constructed within a 23’ x 75’ leased compound. Access to site would extend from Edgewood Avenue over a new gravel driveway, a distance of approximately 180 feet to the cell site.



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 Feet

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

Topographic Site Location Map
Proposed Verizon Wireless
Telecommunications Facility
811 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, Connecticut



Quadrangle Location



Source: 2000 Digital Aerial Photograph



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

Aerial Photograph
 Proposed Verizon Wireless
 Telecommunications Facility
 811 Blue Hills Avenue
 Bloomfield, Connecticut



Quadrangle Location



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:	:	
	:	
APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP	:	DOCKET NO. _____
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A	:	
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL	:	
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR	:	
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE	:	
AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS	:	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT	:	
811 BLUE HILLS AVENUE IN	:	
BLOOMFIELD, CONNECTICUT	:	APRIL 25, 2007

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED**

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Authority and Purpose

This Application and the accompanying attachments (collectively, the "Application") is submitted by Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Cellco" or the "Applicant"), pursuant to Chapter 277a, Sections 16-50g et seq. of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), as amended, and Sections 16-50j-1 et seq. of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("R.C.S.A."), as amended. The Application requests from the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need ("Certificate") for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility, disguised as a flagpole, in the southeasterly portion of the Town of Bloomfield, Connecticut (the "Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility"). The proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would provide for much needed PCS coverage along Routes 178 and 218 in Bloomfield and cellular coverage in the area

and would off-load calls from Cellco's existing University of Hartford ("U of H"), Bloomfield 3, Windsor South, Hartford NW and Hartford North cell sites. Cellco's U of H facility consists of antennas located at the 57.5-foot level on the roof of Auerbach Hall in Bloomfield; Cellco's Bloomfield 3 facility consists of antennas located at the 109-foot level on the Town's existing 140-foot monopole tower at 785 Park Avenue in Bloomfield; Cellco's Windsor South facility consists of antennas located at the 100-foot level on an existing 100-foot monopole tower at 599 Mattianuck Avenue in Windsor; Cellco's Hartford NW facility consists of antennas located at the 138-foot level on the existing 140-foot monopole tower at 439-455 Homestead Avenue in Hartford; and Cellco's Hartford North facility consists of antennas located at the 115-foot level on the existing 150-foot monopole tower at 305 West Service Road in Hartford.

The Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be located on a 8.8-acre parcel located at 811 Blue Hills Avenue in Bloomfield ("Property"). The site is located in the Town's Industrial-2 ("I-2") zone district and is currently used for industrial/manufacturing purposes by the property owner. At the site, Cellco would construct a 110-foot telecommunications tower disguised as a flagpole. Cellco would install a total of six (6) internally-mounted panel-type antennas; three (3) PCS antennas at the 105-foot level and three (3) cellular antennas at the 95-foot level on the tower. Equipment associated with the antennas and a back-up generator would be located within a 12' x 30' shelter located near the base of the tower. All site improvements associated with the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be located within a 23' x 75' leased compound. Access to the site would extend from Edgewood Avenue over a new gravel driveway a distance of approximately 180 feet to the cell site. The proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would provide coverage to an approximately 7.3 square mile area at PCS frequencies and 10.3 square

miles at cellular frequencies and would off-load calls from Celco's existing U of H, Bloomfield 3, Hartford NW, Hartford North and Windsor South cell sites.

The equipment building at the site would house radio and related equipment of Celco, including (a) receiving, transmitting, switching, processing and performance monitoring equipment; and (b) automatic heating and cooling equipment. A back-up generator would also be installed within the equipment building for use during power outages and periodically for maintenance purposes. The tower and equipment shelter would be enclosed by an 8-foot high security fence and gate, which would be screened. Celco's equipment building would be equipped with a silent intrusion and systems alarm and will be monitored on a 24-hour basis to receive and to respond to incoming alarms or other technical problems. The equipment building would remain unstaffed, except as required for maintenance. Once the cell site is operational, maintenance personnel will visit the cell site on a monthly basis. More frequent visits may be required if there are problems with the cell site equipment.

Included in this Application as Attachment 1 is a factual summary and project plans for the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility. This summary, along with the other attachments submitted as part of this Application, contain all of the site-specific information required by statute and the regulations of the Council.

In accordance with Paragraph I(F) of the Council's "Application Guide" for Community Antenna Television and Telecommunication Towers, a copy of the Application Guide is included as Attachment 13. The Application Guide contains references to the specific pages of this Application and the attachments where the information required under Section VI of the Application Guide may be found.

B. The Applicant

Cellco is a Delaware Partnership with an administrative office located at 99 East River Drive, East Hartford, CT, 06108. Cellco is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to operate a wireless telecommunications system in the State of Connecticut within the meaning of C.G.S. Section 16-50i(a)(6). Operation of the wireless telecommunications systems and related activities are Cellco’s sole business in the State of Connecticut.

Cellco has extensive national experience in the development, construction and operation of wireless telecommunications systems and the provision of wireless telecommunications service to the public.

Correspondence and/or communications regarding this Application may be addressed to:

Sandy Carter, Regulatory Manager
Verizon Wireless
99 East River Drive
East Hartford, Connecticut 06108

A copy of all such correspondence or communications should also be sent to the applicant’s attorneys:

Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3597
(860) 275-8200
Attention: Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.

C. Application Fee

The estimated total construction cost for the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be approximately Six Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand (\$655,000.00) Dollars. Pursuant to Section 16-50v-1a(b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, an application fee of \$1,000 accompanies this Application in the form of a check payable to the Connecticut Siting Council.

II. SERVICE AND NOTICE REQUIRED BY C.G.S. SECTION 16-50(b)

Copies of this Application have been sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to municipal, regional, state and federal officials, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 16-50(b). A certificate of service, along with a list of the parties served with a copy of the Application, is included as Attachment 2.

Notice of Cellco's intent to submit this Application was published on April 23 and 24, 2007, by Cellco in the Hartford Courant pursuant to C.G.S. Section 16-50(b). A copy of the published legal notice is included as Attachment 3. A copy of the publisher's affidavit or certificate of publication will be submitted to the Council as soon as it is available.

Attachment 4 contains a certification that notices were sent to each person appearing of record as an owner of property that may be considered to abut the Property in accordance with C.G.S. Section 16-50(b), as well as a list of the property owners to whom such notice was sent and a sample notice letter.

III. REQUIRED INFORMATION: PROPOSED WIRELESS FACILITY

The purpose of this section is to provide an overview and general description of the wireless facility proposed to be installed.

A. General Information

Prior to the 1980's, mobile telephone service was characterized by insufficient frequency availability, inefficient use of available frequencies and poor quality of service. These limitations generally resulted in problems of congestion, blocking of transmissions, interference, lack of coverage and relatively high cost. Consequently, the FCC, in its Report and Order released May 4, 1981 in FCC Docket No. 79-318, recognized the public need for technical improvement, wide-area coverage, high quality service and a degree of competition in mobile telephone service.

More recently, the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the “Act”) emphasized and expanded on these aspects of the FCC’s 1981 decision. Among other things, the Act recognized an important nationwide public need for high-quality wireless telecommunication services of all varieties. The Act also expressly promotes competition and seeks to reduce regulation in all aspects of the telecommunications industry in order to foster lower prices for consumers and to encourage the rapid deployment of new telecommunications technologies.

Cellco’s proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be part of the expanding wireless telecommunications network envisioned by the Act and has been developed to help meet these nationwide goals. In particular, Cellco’s system has been designed, and the cell site proposed in this Application has been selected, so as to maximize the geographical coverage and quality of service while minimizing the total number of cell sites required.

Because the FCC and the United States Congress have determined that there is a pressing public need for high-quality telecommunications service nationwide, the federal government has pre-empted the determination of public need by states and municipalities, including the Council, with respect to public need for the service to be provided by the proposed facility. In addition, the FCC has promulgated regulations containing technical standards for wireless systems, including design standards, in order to ensure the technical integrity of each system and nationwide compatibility among all systems. State and local regulation of these matters is likewise pre-empted. The FCC has also exercised its jurisdiction over and pre-empted state and local regulation with respect to radio frequency interference issues by establishing regulations in this area as well.

Pursuant to FCC authorizations, Cellco has constructed and currently operates a wireless system throughout Connecticut. This system, together with Cellco’s system throughout its east coast and nationwide markets, has been designed and constructed to operate as one integrated,

contiguous system, consistent with Cellco's business policy of developing compatibility and continuity of service on a regional and national basis.

Included as Attachment 5 is the FCC's authorization issued to Cellco for its wireless (cellular and PCS) service in Connecticut. The FCC's rules permit a licensee to modify its system, including the addition of new cell sites, without prior approval by the FCC, as long as the licensee's authorized service area is not enlarged. The facility proposed in this Application would not enlarge Cellco's authorized service area.

B. Public Need and System Design

1. Public Need

As noted above, the Act has pre-empted any state or local determination of public need for wireless services. In Hartford County, Cellco holds an FCC License to provide both cellular and PCS service. Pursuant to its FCC License, Cellco has developed and continues to develop a network of cell sites to serve the demand for wireless service in the area. Cellco's network currently experiences significant gaps in coverage along the heavily-traveled Route 178 and Route 218 and along local roads in the southeasterly portion of Bloomfield, particularly at PCS frequencies. As depicted on the coverage maps included in Attachment 6, Cellco cannot provide service to customers traveling along these roads and in other nearby areas from its existing U of H, Bloomfield 3, Hartford NW, Hartford North and Windsor South cell sites.

2. System Design and Equipment

a. System Design

Cellco's wireless system in general and the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility have been designed and developed to allow Cellco to achieve and to maintain high quality service without interruption from dropped calls and interference.

The system design provides for frequency reuse and hand-off, is capable of orderly expansion and is compatible with other wireless systems. The resulting quality of service compares favorably with the quality of service provided by conventional wireline telephone service. The wireless system is designed to assure a true cellular configuration of base transmitters and receivers in order to cover the proposed service area effectively while providing the highest quality of service possible. Cell site transmissions are carefully tailored to the FCC's technical standards with respect to coverage and interference and to minimize the amount of power that is radiated. System modulation is narrowband frequency modulation for all voice channels at 30 kilohertz ("kHz").

Mobile telephone switching offices ("MTSOs") in Windsor and Wallingford are interconnected and operate Cellco's wireless systems in Connecticut as a single network, offering the subscriber uninterrupted use of the system while traveling throughout the State. This network is further interconnected with the local exchange company ("LEC") and inter-lata (long distance) carriers network.

Cellco has designed its wireless system in conformity with applicable standards and constraints for wireless systems. Cellco's system is also designed to minimize the need for additional cell sites in the absence of additional demand or unforeseen circumstances.

b. Cellular System Equipment

The key elements of the cellular system are the two MTSOs located in Windsor and Wallingford and the various connector cell sites around the state.

The major electronic components of each cell site are radio frequency transmission and receiving equipment and cell site controller equipment. Cellco's cellular system uses Lucent Flexent® Modular Cell 4.0 cell site equipment to provide complete cell site control and performance monitoring. This equipment is capable of expanding in modules to meet system

growth needs. The cell site equipment primarily provides for: message control on the calling channel; call setup and supervision; radio frequency equipment control; internal diagnostics; response to remote and local test commands; data from the mobile or portable unit in both directions and on all channels; scan receiver control; transmission of power control commands; rescanning of all timing; and commands and voice channel assignment. Additional information with respect to the Lucent Flexent® Modular Cell 4.0 equipment is contained in Attachment 7.

To maintain the reliability and integrity of its network, Cellco, as a matter of corporate policy, installs back-up generators at each of its cell site locations.¹ These generators are appropriately sized to handle the significant electric load requirements of a cell site including Cellco's radio equipment and air conditioning units. These generators allow Cellco to maintain a highly reliable wireless network, insuring that its customers and local emergency service providers can use its wireless services when commercial power to the area is, for whatever the reason, unavailable. Interruptions in commercial power in Cellco's New England market are common and result most frequently from adverse weather conditions (e.g. snow and ice storms; wind storms).

3. Technological Alternatives

Cellco submits that there are no equally effective technological alternatives to the proposal contained herein. In fact, Cellco's wireless system represents state-of-the-art technology offering high-quality service. Cellco is aware of no viable and currently available alternatives to its system design for carriers licensed by the FCC.

¹ Currently, more than 97% of all of Cellco's cell sites, nationwide, maintain on-site back-up generators.

C. Site Selection and Tower Sharing

1. Cell Site Selection

Cellco's goal in selecting cell sites such as the one proposed in Bloomfield is to locate its facilities in such a manner as to allow it to build and to operate a high-quality wireless system with the least environmental impact. Cellco has determined that the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility will satisfy this goal and is necessary to resolve existing coverage and capacity problems and to provide high-quality uninterrupted service along a portion of Blue Hills Avenue and local roads in the area.

The methodology of cell site selection for Cellco's wireless system generally limits the search for possible locations to a specific area on the overall grid for the area. A list of existing towers or other non-tower structures considered is included in Attachment 8. Cellco currently uses many of the existing towers in the immediate area, including those sites identified on the coverage maps as Bloomfield 3, Hartford NW, Hartford North and Windsor South. (See Attachment 6). None of these existing towers nor Cellco's U of H facility can help to resolve the existing coverage problems along Routes 178 and 218. Cellco also regularly investigates the use of existing, non-tower structures in an area as an alternative to building a new tower. Several building roof-tops were explored as possible alternatives to a new tower in the area. Descriptions of each of the sites investigated are included in the Site Search Summary (Attachment 8). The site search summary details the reason why each site, other than the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility, were not presented to the Council. The site search summary together with the site information contained in Attachment 1, support Cellco's position that the site selected represents the most feasible alternative of the sites investigated.

2. Tower Sharing

Cellco will design the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility tower so that it could be shared by other carriers. The proposed facility compound was designed to accommodate equipment of other wireless carriers. This type of tower sharing arrangement would potentially reduce, if not eliminate, the need for a separate tower in this area in the future. Cellco would also make space on its tower available to the Town's public safety entities if such a need exists.

D. Cell Site Information

1. Site Facilities

At the site, Cellco will install a 110-foot monopole tower disguised as a flagpole. Cellco would install a total of six (6) internally-mounted panel-type directional antennas; three PCS antennas at the 105-foot level; and three (3) cellular antennas at the 95-foot level on the tower. All antennas will be installed behind RF transparent material at the top of the flagpole tower.

Cellco would install a 12' x 30' single-story equipment shelter near the base of the tower to house Cellco's receiving, transmitting, switching, processing and performance monitoring equipment and the required heating and cooling equipment. A back-up generator would be installed within the equipment shelter for use during power outages and periodically for maintenance purposes. The tower and equipment shelter would be surrounded by an 8-foot high security fence and gate, which would be screened by landscaping, if necessary. (See Attachment 1).

The equipment shelter would be equipped with silent intrusion and systems alarms. Cellco personnel will be available on a 24-hour basis to receive and to respond to incoming alarms. The equipment building will remain unstaffed, except as required for periodic maintenance purposes.

2. Overall Costs and Benefits

Aside from the limited visual impacts discussed further below, Cellco believes that there are no significant costs attendant to the construction, maintenance, and operation of the proposed cell site. In fact, the public will benefit substantially from its increased ability to receive high-quality mobile and portable wireless service in the Bloomfield area.² The Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be a part of a communications system that addresses the public need identified by the FCC and the United States Congress for high-quality, competitive mobile and portable wireless service. Moreover, the proposed cell site would be part of a system designed to limit the need for additional cell sites in the future.

The overall costs to Cellco for development of the proposed cell site are set forth in Section III.E. of the Application.

3. Environmental Compatibility

Pursuant to Section 16-50p of the General Statutes, in its review of the Application, the Council is required to find and to determine, among other things, the nature of the probable environmental impact, including a specification of every significant adverse effect of the facility, whether alone or cumulatively with other effects, on, and conflicting with the policies of the state concerning the natural environment, ecological balance, public health and safety, scenic, historic and recreational values, forests and parks, air and water purity and fish and wildlife.

² Businesses across the State have become more dependent on wireless telecommunication services. The public safety benefits of wireless telephone service are illustrated by the improved Connecticut State Police 911 emergency calling system. The 911 emergency calling system is available statewide to all wireless telephone users. Numerous other emergency service organizations have turned to wireless telephone service for use during natural disasters and severe storms when wireline service is interrupted or unavailable. As a deterrent to crime, the general public will further benefit from the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association's donation of more than 50,000 cellular phones to "Neighborhood Watch" groups nationwide.

a. Primary Facility Impact is Visual

The wireless system of which the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be a part has been designed to meet the public need for high-quality wireless service while minimizing any potential adverse environmental impact. In part because there are few, if any other adverse impacts, the primary impact of facilities such as this is visual. This visual impact will vary from location to location around a tower, depending upon factors such as vegetation, topography, the distance of nearby properties from the tower and the location of buildings and roadways in a “sight line” toward the tower. Similarly, visual impact of a tower facility can be further reduced through the proper use of alternative tower structures; so-called “stealth installations.” Where appropriate, telecommunications towers camouflaged as flagpoles, trees, and church bell towers, to name a few, can help to further reduce visual impacts associated with these structures. This is the case with respect to the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility. Attachment 9 contains a detailed Visual Impact Evaluation Report, prepared by VHB, Inc. (the “VHB Report”) that assesses the visual impact of the proposed flagpole tower. The VHB Report concludes that 1) the proposed 110-foot flagpole tower would be visible above the tree canopy from approximately 33 acres, less than one-half of one percent of the 8,042 acre study area; and 2) the proposed 110-foot flagpole tower would be visible, through the trees (so-called “seasonal views”) from approximately 44 acres, 0.54 percent of the 8,042 acre study area.

There are approximately sixteen (16) residences within the study area that will have year-round views of the flagpole and approximately 30 residences in the study area that will have seasonal views of the flagpole. The closest residence is located approximately 170 feet to the southeast.

Weather permitting, Cellco will raise a balloon with a diameter of at least three (3) feet at the proposed cell site on the day of the Council's hearing on this Application, or at a time otherwise specified by the Council.

b. Solicitation of Agency Comments

Section 16-50j of the General Statutes requires the Council to consult with and to solicit comments on the Application from the Commissioners of the Departments of Environmental Protection, Public Health, Public Utility Control, Economic Development, and Transportation, the Council on Environmental Quality, and the Office of Policy and Management. In addition to the Council's solicitation of comments, Cellco has, as a part of its National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") Checklist, requested comments on the proposed facility from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS"), Environmental and Geographic Information Center of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") and the Connecticut Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer ("SHPO"). Attachment 10 contains information on the USFWS and DEP reviews. The information from both the USFWS and DEP databases have confirmed that no known populations of Federal or State Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern Species occur at the proposed site. A response from the SHPO is expected shortly and will be submitted for inclusion as a part of the record for this docket as soon as it is received.

This review by state administrative agencies furnishes ample expert opinion on the potential environmental impacts from the facility proposed in the Application, in the context of the criteria which the Council must consider.

c. Non-Ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation

In August 1996, the FCC adopted a hybrid ANSI/NCRP Standard for exposure to Radio Frequency ("RF") emissions from telecommunications facilities like the one proposed in this

Application. The ANSI Standard was adopted by the State of Connecticut in C.G.S. Section 22a-162 and Section 22a-162a “for the purpose of preventing possible harmful effects in human beings from exposure to electromagnetic fields in the frequency range of 300 Kilohertz (kHz) to 100 Gigahertz (GHz). . .”

To ensure compliance with the applicable standards, the Applicant has performed maximum power density calculations for the proposed cell site according to the methodology prescribed by the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Bulletin No. 65E, Edition 97-01 (August 1997) (“OET Bulletin 65”). The calculation is a conservative, worst-case approximation for RF power density levels at the closest accessible point to the antennas, in this case the base of the tower, and with all antennas transmitting simultaneously on all channels at full power. The calculations indicate that the maximum power density level for Cellco antennas would be 17.05% of the Standard at the site.

d. Other Environmental Issues

No sanitary facilities are required for the proposed site. The proposed facility and operations at the proposed site will not cause any significant air, water, noise or other environmental impacts, or hazard to human health.

Based on agency comments received, Cellco submits that the proposed facility will have no significant adverse effect on scenic, natural, historic or recreational features, and that none of the potential effects from the facility alone or cumulatively with other effects is sufficient reason to deny this Application.

As discussed above, Cellco will install a back-up generator inside a segregated 10' x 12' generator room within its equipment shelter. Adequate safeguards have been designed into Cellco's generator system and generator room that eliminate, to the greatest extent possible, the

potential for environmental impacts associated with the generator. For example, the generator maintains a double-walled fuel tank, complete with a leak detection system. The generator's operating and leak detection systems are monitored 24/7 by Cellco's cell site technicians.

In addition to the safeguards built into the generator unit itself, the concrete floor of the generator room in Cellco's equipment shelter is recessed, several inches and is capable of containing 120% of the capacity of all generator fluids (fuel and oil). Leak detection alarms are also installed in the generator room floor and are monitored remotely. Lastly, all generator refueling operations occur inside the generator room. Cellco contracts with Clean Harbors Environmental Service to respond to any spills at its cell sites within six (6) hours of an event. Each generator is exercised weekly to ensure that it is operating properly and is inspected and maintained on a regular basis.

4. Consistency with Local Land Use Controls

The Connecticut Siting Council Application Guide for Community Antenna Television and Telecommunication Facilities, as amended on February 16, 2007 requires the inclusion of a narrative summary of the project's consistency with the Town's Plan of Development and Zoning Regulations, as well as a description of planned and existing uses of the site location and surrounding properties.

a. Planned and Existing Land Uses

The proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would be located on a 8.8-acre parcel owned by Samo Realty LLC and is currently occupied by a single-story industrial building occupied by a furniture manufacturing business. The Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility is in the I-2 (Industrial) zone district.³ The Property is surrounded by Bloomfield Industrial Park property, zoned I-2, to

³ A portion of the Property, to the north of the cell site location is in the Blue Hills Gateway District.

the west and north, and by a mix of residential and commercial land uses to the south and east in the Blue Hills Gateway District. According to plans on file at Bloomfield Town Hall and as depicted on Sheet SC-1 behind Tab 1 of this Application, the undeveloped portion of the Property immediately east of the cell site location was previously approved for additional parking. That parking area has never been constructed.

b. Town of Bloomfield Plan of Development

The Town of Bloomfield Plan of Development adopted March 23, 2000 (the “Plan”), does not identify telecommunications towers or wireless services as a land use consistent or inconsistent with the general planning policies of the Town of Bloomfield.

c. Zoning Regulations

According to the Bloomfield Zoning Map, the site is located in the I-2 zone district. Telecommunications towers are not currently a regulated land use in the Town of Bloomfield. A copy of the Bloomfield Zoning Regulations were submitted, in bulk, along with this Application.

d. Inland Wetland and Water Course Regulations

The Bloomfield Inland Wetland and Watercourses (“IWW”) Regulations regulate activity within identified wetland or watercourse areas and those upland areas within 100 feet of a designated wetland or within 200 feet of a designated watercourse. Five (5) copies of the Bloomfield IWW Regulations were filed, in bulk, with the Council. In a report dated January 19, 2007, Dean Gustafson, Professional Soil Scientist with VHB, Inc., confirmed that there are no wetlands or watercourses occurring at the site compound or within 200 feet of the proposed facility location. A copy of Mr. Gustafson’s report is included in Attachment 11.

In accordance with the Connecticut Soil Erosion Control Guidelines, as established by the Council for Soil and Water Conservation, adequate and appropriate soil erosion and

sedimentation control measures will be established and maintained throughout the cell site construction period. In addition, Cellco will employ appropriate construction management practices to ensure that no pollutants would be discharged to any nearby watercourse or wetland areas or to area groundwater during the construction process.

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Map, Community Panel Number 090122 011, the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility would not be located in a designated flood zone.

5. Local Input

Section 16-50(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, requires local input on matters before the Council. On February 21, 2007, Cellco representatives met with Town of Bloomfield Director of Planning and Zoning Thomas Hooper, as designee for Town Manager Louie Chapman, Jr. to commence the sixty (60) day municipal consultation process. At this meeting, Mr. Hooper received copies of technical information summarizing Cellco's plans to establish a telecommunications facility in Bloomfield. Cellco was notified on May 5, 2007 that the Planning and Zoning Commission would not conduct any type of pre-application public information hearing. Following Mr. Hooper's suggestion, Cellco contacted the Blue Hills Fire Department to determine if it had any interest in installing emergency service antennas on the proposed tower. As of the date of this filing, Cellco has not received a response.

6. Consultations With State and Federal Officials

Attachment 10 and Section III.D. of the Application describe Cellco's consultations with state and federal officials regarding Cellco's proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility.

a. Federal Communications Commission

The FCC did not review this particular proposal. As discussed above, FCC approval is not required where the authorized service area is not enlarged.

b. Federal Aviation Administration

As with all of its tower applications, Cellco has conducted the appropriate air-space analysis for the proposed Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility to determine if the proposed tower would constitute an obstruction or hazard to air navigation. Cellco's analysis has confirmed, pursuant to FAA standards, that the site would not constitute an obstruction or hazard to air navigation and therefore no obstruction marking or lighting would be required. A copy of the Federal Airway & Airspace Summary Report is included in Attachment 12.

c. United States Fish and Wildlife Service

According to the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, no federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under its jurisdiction are known to occur at the Property. See Attachment 10.

d. Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

(1) Environmental and Geographic Information Center

As discussed above, Attachment 10 contains information regarding the DEP's Natural Diversity Database and the determination by EBI Consulting that the project will not impact any known occurrence of listed species or significant natural community.

(2) Bureau of Air Management

Pursuant to R.C.S.A. § 22a-174-3, the on-site emergency back-up generator proposed as a part of this Application will require the issuance of a permit from the DEP Bureau of Air Management. As proposed, this emergency generator will be run only during the interruption of

utility service to the cell site and periodically as required for maintenance purposes. Cellco will obtain the necessary permit prior to installing the generator at the facility.

e. Connecticut State Historic Preservation Officer

As discussed above, a response from the SHPO is expected shortly and will be submitted for inclusion as a part of the record for this docket as soon as it is received.

E. Estimated Cost and Schedule

1. Overall Estimated Costs

The total estimated cost of construction of the proposed facility is \$655,000. This estimate includes:

(1)	Cell site radio equipment of approximately	\$450,000
(2)	Tower, coax and antenna costs of approximately	110,000
(3)	Power systems costs of approximately	20,000
(4)	Equipment building costs of approximately	60,000
(5)	Miscellaneous costs (including site preparation and installation) of approximately	15,000

2. Overall Scheduling

Site preparation and engineering would commence following Council approval of Cellco's Development and Maintenance ("D & M") plan and are expected to be completed within two to four weeks. Due to the delivery schedules of the manufacturers, installation of the building and installation of the tower are expected to take an additional two weeks. Equipment installation is expected to take an additional two weeks after installation of the building and installation of the tower. Cell site integration and system testing is expected to require two weeks after equipment installation.

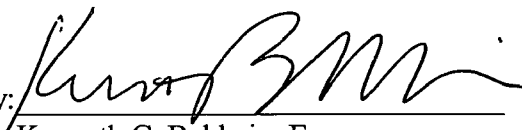
IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the facts contained in this Application, Cellco submits that the establishment of the Bloomfield Blue Hills Facility will not have any substantial adverse environmental effects. A public need exists for high quality mobile and portable wireless service in this area, as determined by the FCC and the United States Congress, and a competitive framework for providing such service has been established by the FCC and the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Cellco submits that the public need far outweighs any possible environmental effects resulting from the construction of the proposed cell site. Moreover, the cell site proposed in this Application will help to provide a level of service in the area that is commensurate with the public demand currently and in the foreseeable future.

WHEREFORE, Cellco respectfully requests that the Council grant this Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the proposed site in Bloomfield.

Respectfully submitted,

CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON
WIRELESS

By: 

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103-3597
(860) 275-8200
Attorneys for the Applicant